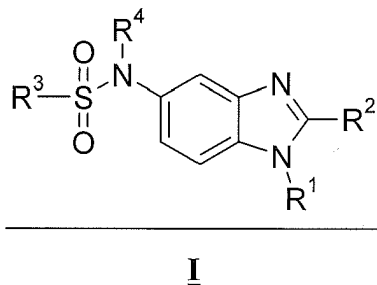


## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

### Listing of claims:

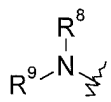
1-2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently amended) A compound as ~~claimed claim 1~~, of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, phenyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>4-6</sub>cycloalkenyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>heterocycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, and C<sub>4-6</sub>cycloalkenyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, phenyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>4-6</sub>cycloalkenyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>heterocycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, and C<sub>4-6</sub>cycloalkenyl used in defining R<sup>1</sup> is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, and -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>;

R<sup>2</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl used in defining R<sup>2</sup> is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy and -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>;

R<sup>3</sup> is selected from C<sub>2-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>heterocycloalkyl and  optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, and;

wherein said C<sub>3-6</sub>heterocycloalkyl contain at least one nitrogen ring atom and the radical of C<sub>3-6</sub>heterocycloalkyl is located on the at least one nitrogen ring atom, and wherein each of R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> is independently selected from -H, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, morpholinyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, pyrrolidinyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, and piperidinyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, morpholinyl-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, pyrrolidinyl-C<sub>1-</sub>

alkyl, and piperidiny-C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy and -NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>; and

R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently selected from -H and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl; and  
the compound is not:

N-[2-tert-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N,N,N'-trimethylsulfamide;

N-[2-tert-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N',N'-diethyl-N-methylsulfamide;

N'-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylpropyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N,N-dimethylsulfamide;

N-[2-tert-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methylbutane-1-sulfonamide;

N-[2-tert-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methyl-2-pyrrolidin-1-ylethanesulfonamide;

N-[2-tert-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methyl-2-morpholin-4-ylethanesulfonamide;

N-[2-tert-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methyl-2-piperidin-1-ylethanesulfonamide;

N-[2-tert-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-2-methoxy-N-methylethanesulfonamide;

N-[2-tert-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-2-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-N-methylethanesulfonamide;

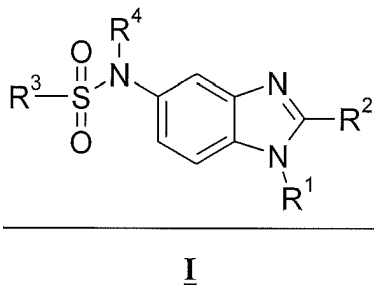
2-(2-Aminoethoxy)-N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methylethanesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methylethanesulfonamide;

N-{2-*tert*-Butyl-1-[(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}-N-methylbutane-1-sulfonamide;

N-{2-*tert*-Butyl-1-[(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}-N-methyl-2-piperidin-1-ylethanesulfonamide and or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

4. (Currently amended) A compound as ~~claimed in claim 1~~, of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is selected from cyclohexylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclobutylmethyl, cyclopropylmethyl, 4,4-difluorocyclohexanemethyl, cyclohexylethyl, cyclopentylethyl, tetrahydropyranylmethyl, tetrahydrofuranylmethyl, 1-piperidinylethyl, N-methyl-2-piperidinylmethyl and benzyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is selected from t-butyl, n-butyl, 2-methyl-2-butyl, isopentyl, 2-methoxy-2-propyl, 2-hydroxy-propyl, trifluoromethyl, 1,1-difluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 1-cyclopropyl-ethyl, 1-methyl-propyl, 1,1-dimethyl-propyl, 1,1-dimethyl-3-buten-1-yl, ethyl, and 2-propyl;

R<sup>3</sup> is C<sub>2-5</sub>alkyl and R<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>N-, wherein R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are independently selected from -H, and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl;

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from -H, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-10</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-10</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, and C<sub>4-8</sub>cycloalkenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; and the compound is not:

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N,N,N'-trimethylsulfamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N',N'-diethyl-N-methylsulfamide;

N'-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylpropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N,N-dimethylsulfamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methylbutane-1-sulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methyl-2-pyrrolidin-1-ylethanesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methyl-2-morpholin-4-ylethanesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methyl-2-piperidin-1-ylethanesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-2-methoxy-N-methylethanesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-2-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-N-methylethanesulfonamide;

2-(2-Aminoethoxy)-N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methylethanesulfonamide;

N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-methylethylsulfonamide;

N-{2-*tert*-Butyl-1-[(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}-N-methylbutane-1-sulfonamide;

N-{2-*tert*-Butyl-1-[(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}-N-methyl-2-piperidin-1-ylethanesulfonamide and or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

5-9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 ~~3~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11-16. (Canceled).

17. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.